



293/008 Cont. 12-1608  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Thomas J. Bachinski et al.  
Application No. : 09/406,575 Confirmation No.: 1763  
Filed : September 24, 1999  
For : MEDICAL GRAFTING CONNECTORS AND  
FASTENERS  
Group Art Unit : 3738  
Examiner : Paul B. Prebilic

New York, New York 10020  
December 5, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

A one-month extension of time in which to respond to the Office Action dated August 13, 2003 for the above-referenced patent application is respectfully requested. A check in the amount of \$110.00 for a one-month extension is enclosed herewith.

In response to the Office Action dated August 13, 2003, please amend the above-referenced patent application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 30 of this paper.

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